

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7685

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CI

SUBJ: CHILEAN PRESIDENT'S SEMI-ANNUAL ADDRESS: FOREIGN POLICY  
ASSESSMENT

REFS: (A) SANTIAGO 4911, (B) GANTZ/Ryan MEMO OF DEC 10, 1975

1. SUMMARY: PERHAPS WORDS "CONFIDENTLY UNYIELDING" BEST DESCRIBE TONE OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S SPEECH COMMEMORATING 30-MONTH ANNIVERSARY OF COUP. ADDRESS HAD BEEN TOUTED PRINCIPALLY AS STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC POLICY. THOSE ASPECTS, GENERALLY ALONG EXPECTED LINES, BEING REPORTED SEPTEL. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PRESIDENT STRESSED CUBAN, SOVIET AND INTERNAL SECURITY THREATS; TOOK SOLACE FROM "INDICATIONS THAT VEIL BLINDING DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES" HAD BEGUN TO LIFT; LAMBASTED KENNEDY AND HIS ARMS CUT-OFF AMENDMENT AS IMMORAL AND ILLEGAL; CITED HIS BOLIVIAN INITIATIVE AS EVIDENCE OF CHILE'S PEACEFUL FOREIGN POLICY; AND SAID HE WOULD MAKE SOME CHANGES IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND AMONG AMBASSADORS TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT PINOCHET ADDRESSED A SELECTED AUDIENCE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND GENERALS AND ADMIRALS OF THE ARMED FORCES ON MORNING OF MARCH 11. SPEECH COMMEMORATED 30 MONTHS OF JUNTA RULE. ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.

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3. PRESIDENT SAID THAT INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST

CHILE CONTINUES UNABATED BUT HAS TAKEN NEW FORMS IN LAST FEW WEEKS. TOUGHEST LANGUAGE RESERVED FOR SENATOR KENNEDY. "IMMORAL AND LEGALLY INDEFENSIBLE AMENDMENT, ROOTED IN COLUMNY, PRESENTED BY U.S. SENATOR KNOWN FOR HIS DEMAGOGUERY AND FRIVOLITY AND PASSED BY U.S. SENATE, HAS CAUSED SPECIAL INDIGNATION IN CHILE. THE AMENDMENT WOULD VOID VALID CONTRACTS FOR PURCHASE OF ARMS FOR CASH. SUCH AN AMENDMENT WEAKENS HEMISPHERIC SECURITY TREATIES AND NORMAL INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE IN ADDITION TO BANKRUPTING THE MORAL VALUE OF WORD ALREADY PLEDGED. THE OVERWHELMING REJECTION OF THE AMENDMENT BY THE HOUSE GIVES HOPE THAT IT WILL NOT BE ADOPTED, THEREBY AVOIDING A DAMAGING PRECEDENT CARRYING UNFORESEEABLE CONSEQUENCES. I AM CONFIDENT THAT ITS ADOPTION (BY THE SENATE) DOES NOT REPRESENT AMERICAN OPINION."

4. PINOCHET THEN TURNED TO CUBAN THREAT, STATING THAT HISTORY HAD VINDICATED CHILEAN CONTENTION THAT MARXIST-LENINIST-CUBAN EXPANSIONISM STILL RAMPANT. SIMILARLY, SOVIET IMPERIALISM AGAIN HAD SHOWN ITSELF. "WHAT CHILE DID SEPTEMBER 11 (1973 COUP) WAS BASED UPON THE PEOPLES' COURAGE AND WILLINGNESS TO FIGHT AND WIN, NOT ON "DIALOGUE" OR 'DETENTE'." PRESIDENT SAID THAT CHILE HAD BORNE HEAVY BURDEN AS VANGUARD OF ANTI-COMMUNISM BUT THAT ENCOURAGING SIGNS HAD APPEARED. "VEIL BLINDING MANY GOVERNMENTS AND DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES TO CHILE'S VOCATION HAS BEGUN TO LIFT." HE CITED AS INDICATION POSITION OF AFL-CIO; PRESIDENT FORD'S STATED INTENTION TO CEASE USING WORD "DETENTE"; AND U.S. DELEGATES' STATEMENT DESCRIBING ATTITUDE OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AS FARCE. "ALL THESE ARE ENCOURAGING SIGNS FOR THE MOST DEEPLY HELD CONVICTIONS OF THE CHILEAN PEOPLE."

5. INTERNALLY "MEANWHILE, OUR COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE ALONG THE ROAD TOWARD ITS NEW DEMOCRACY, CEASELESSLY COMBATting COMMUNISM'S SUBVERSION AND IDEOLOGY. IN THE FACE OF SUBVERSION WE WILL NOT CEDE A MILLIMETER, AND IN OPPOSING MARXIST IDEOLOGY WE INTERPOSE THE TRUTH OF OUR HUMANIST, NATIONALIST AND CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY."

6. IN OTHER FOREIGN POLICY AREAS PINOCHET AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE BOLIVIAN PROBLEM "WHOSE HAPPY RESOLUTION WE HOPE TO SEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR WILLINGNESS TO ACCELERATE THE NEGOTIATIONS ALREADY PENDING WITH OUR SISTER REPUBLIC, PERU."

7. PRESIDENT WRAPPED UP THIS PART OF HIS SPEECH WITH STATEMENT THAT THERE WOULD BE CHANGES IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CORPS OF AMBASSADORS, THANKING OUTGOING FUNCTIONARIES WHO HAD SERVED COUNTRY WELL.

8. COMMENT: THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH VIVIDLY ILLUSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE THE GOC ATTACHES TO THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES. INDEED, VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PORTION WAS DEDICATED TO INTERPRETING ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE US AND LECTURING ON THE EVILS OF CUBA AND SOVIETS AND FECKLESSNESS OF DETENTE. WE NOTE THAT ALL THREE EXAMPLES OF "NEW REALISM" AMONG DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES INVOLVE THE US. WE BELIEVE PINOCHET ACCURATELY REFLECTS A MAJOR CURRENT OF CHILEAN OPINION IN EXPRESSING HOPE THAT DEMOCRATIC NATIONS ARE AT LAST BEGINNING TO FALL INTO STEP WITH CHILEAN PERCEPTION OF CUBA-SOVIET-MARXIST MENACE.

9. ALTHOUGH PINOCHET BASED HIS CASE THAT THE KENNEDY AMENDMENT WAS ILLEGAL ON GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD REPUDIATE VALID CONTRACTS, HE ALSO MENTIONED FACT THAT IT WOULD WEAKEN INTER-AMERICAN SECURITY AGREEMENTS. WE HAVE SEEN IN THE LOCAL PRESS A RATHER MORE THOROUGH EXPOSITION OF THIS ARGUMENT IN THE FORM OF A LENGTHY ARTICLE IN THE GOVERNMENT'S "CRONISTA" BY EX-MINISTER OF DEFENSE JUAN CARMONA. CARMONA, A MINISTER OF THE FREI GOVERNMENT, CONTENDED THAT BOTH THE RIO TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE AND OUR BILATERAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT REQUIRE THE U.S. TO PERMIT SALES OF MILITARY MATERIAL TO CHILE. SIMILAR CONTENTIONS WERE MADE LAST YEAR. WE EXAMINED THESE ARGUMENTS (REFS A AND B) AND FOUND THEM WITHOUT SUBSTANCE.  
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